RECORD OF DECISION

As the Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management, I have reviewed the final environmental impact statement (EIS) for Base Realignment and Closure Actions at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. The EIS was prepared in compliance with the Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Parts 1500–1508) and Environmental Analysis of Army Actions (32 CFR Part 651). The EIS adequately assesses the impacts of implementing Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) recommendations and other transformation activities at the installation including construction or renovation of permanent facilities associated with the 470th Military Intelligence (MI) Brigade (BDE), Fifth Army/ U.S. Army North (ARNORTH), and the Sixth Army/ U.S. Army South (USARSO) for Fort Sam Houston (FSH) and Camp Bullis, Texas, on the biological, physical, and cultural environment. The Army will proceed as indicated herein.

1.0 Background

On September 8, 2005, the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission (BRAC Commission) recommended that certain realignment actions occur at FSH and Camp Bullis, Texas. These recommendations were approved by the President on September 23, 2005 and forwarded to Congress. Congress did not alter or disapprove of any of the BRAC Commission's recommendations, and on November 9, 2005, the recommendations became law. The BRAC Commission recommendations must now be implemented as provided for in the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-510), as amended. Seventeen BRAC Commission recommendations which affect FSH are listed below.

- Close Fort McPherson, GA, and relocate the Army Contracting Agency (ACA) Southern Region HQ to FSH.
- Realign FSH and Randolph Air Force Base (AFB), Texas, by relocating the installation management functions to Lackland AFB, Texas.
- Realign the Zachary Taylor Building, a leased installation in Arlington, VA, by relocating the Army Installation Management Agency (IMA) HQ to FSH.
- Realign Rock Island Arsenal, Illinois, as follows:
 - Relocate the Army IMA Northwest Region HQ to FSH, and consolidate it with the Army IMA Southwest Region HQ to form the Army IMA Western Region.
 - Relocate the Army Network Enterprise Technology Command (NETCOM)
 Northwest Region HQ to FSH, and consolidate it with the Army Network
 Enterprise Technology Command Southwest Region HQ to form the Army
 Network Enterprise Technology Command Western Region.
- Realign Seven Corners Corporate Center, a leased installation in Falls Church, VA, and 4700 King Street, a leased installation in Alexandria, VA, by relocating the Army Community and Family Support Center to FSH.
- Realign Rosslyn Metro Center, a leased installation in Arlington, VA, by relocating the Army Family Liaison Office to FSH.
- Realign Skyline Six, a leased installation in Falls Church, VA, by relocating the ACA HQ to FSH.
- Realign the Hoffman 1 Building, a leased installation in Alexandria, VA, by relocating the ACA E-Commerce Region HQ to FSH.
- Realign Fort Buchanan, Puerto Rico, by relocating the ACA Southern Hemisphere

- Region HQ to FSH.
- Realign Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD, by relocating the Army Environmental Center (AEC) to FSH.
- Realign Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, DC, as follows:
 - o Relocate enlisted histology technician training to FSH.
 - Relocate the Combat Casualty Care Research subfunction (except for those organizational elements performing neuroprotection research) of the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (Forest Glen Annex) and the Combat Casualty Care Research subfunction of the Naval Medical Research Center (Forest Glen Annex) to the Army Institute of Surgical Research, FSH.
- Close Brooks City-Base, San Antonio, Texas, and relocate the Naval Health Research Center Electro-Magnetic Energy Detachment and the Directed Energy portion of the Human Effectiveness Directorate of the Air Force Research Laboratory to FSH.
- Close Brooks City-Base, San Antonio, Texas, and relocate the Army Medical Research Detachment to the Army Institute of Surgical Research, FSH.
- Realign Lackland AFB, Texas, by relocating the inpatient medical function of the 59th Medical Wing (Wilford Hall Medical Center [WHMC]) to the Brooke Army Medical Center (BAMC), FSH, establishing it as the San Antonio Regional Military Medical Center, and converting WHMC into an ambulatory care center.
- Realign Naval Air Station Great Lakes, Illinois; Sheppard AFB, Texas; Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, Virginia; and Naval Medical Center San Diego, California, by relocating basic and specialty enlisted medical training to FSH.
- Realign Building 42, 8901 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, Maryland, by relocating the Combat Casualty Care Research subfunction of the Naval Medical Research Center to the Army Institute of Surgical Research, FSH.
- Realign Naval Station Great Lakes, Illinois, by relocating the Army Dental Research
 Detachment, the Air Force Dental Investigative Service, and the Naval Institute for
 Dental and Biomedical Research to the Army Institute of Surgical Research, FSH.

2.0 Proposed Action

The Army proposes to implement the BRAC Commission's recommendations to realign FSH. Implementation has two aspects:

- Relocation of approximately 10,150 additional personnel to FSH and
- Construction and/or alteration of facilities at FSH and Camp Bullis, Texas.

Realignment of FSH will raise the post's average daily population of students, military personnel, civilian and contractor personnel to approximately 36,300 personnel. Implementing the proposed action at FSH requires alteration of approximately 979,100 square feet of existing facilities and construction of approximately 7 million square feet of new facilities, and approximately 375,400 square feet of vehicle parking and roads. Of the approximately 7 million square feet of new construction at FSH, 62 percent will consist of student dormitories. Additionally, there will be approximately 501,800 square feet of demolition/deconstruction.

3.0 Purpose of and Need for the Proposed Action

The purpose of the proposed action is to implement the BRAC Commission's recommendations pertaining to FSH, and integrate existing and future facilities and infrastructure for Army Modular Force (AMF) units along with the large numbers of incoming BRAC personnel.

The need for the proposed action is to improve the ability of the Nation to respond rapidly to challenges of the 21st century. To carry out its tasks, the Army must adapt to changing world conditions and must improve its capabilities to respond to a variety of circumstances across the full spectrum of military operations. BRAC supports advancing the goals of transformation, improving military capabilities, and enhancing military value. The Army must carry out the BRAC recommendations at FSH to achieve the objectives for which Congress established the BRAC process and to comply with the law.

4.0 Alternatives to the Proposed Action

4.1 Realignment (Preferred) Alternative

Based on the current configuration of installation facilities, FSH is characterized by four mission-related subareas: 1) patient care; 2) medical and other research, development, testing and evaluation (RDTE); 3) medical training; and 4) HQ administration and AMF. The Army's realignment alternative will consist of additional facilities in each of the subareas as specified below.

Patient Care:

- Additional inpatient facilities would be located within the existing Brooke Army Medical Center (BAMC) campus.
- All BAMC outpatient facilities would be located to the south of existing outpatient clinic facilities.
- A pharmacy would be constructed.

Medical and Other RDTE:

- All medical research activities of the Center of Excellence for Battlefield Health and Trauma would be located in an existing space in Facility 3611 and constructed new facilities within and adjacent to BMAC.
- Medical and non-medical research activities of the Tri-Service Research facility would be developed on Pershing Field across from the BAMC campus.
- A 440-meter laser range would be added along the north side of Pershing Field.
- CHPPM-South would be placed in Facility 2630 after its renovation.
- A bridge would be constructed over Salado Creek, connecting Nursery Road and W.W. White Road. The bridge construction is part of the Tri-Service Research facility, Military Construction Army (MCA) Project 64185.

Medical Training:

- Additional Medical Education Training Center (METC) facilities would be located within the Army Medical Department Center and School (AMEDDC&S) campus. Five existing barracks facilities between Koehler and W.W. White Roads potentially would be reused.
- An additional medical training facility at Camp Bullis would be constructed.
- The following roads may be removed: Johnson Circle, Forage Avenue and Parish,
 Binz-Engleman, Williams, W.W. White, McGee, Womack, Koehler, Worth and Murphy.

HQ Administration and AMF:

- Army Environmental Center (AEC); Headquarters Installation Management Agency (HQ IMA);
 Army Network Enterprise Technology Command (NETCOM); Army Contracting Agency
 (ACA); and, if possible, the 470th MI BDE would be assigned the use of Facilities 2263, 2264
 and 2266 (South Beach) after their renovation.
- The Army Community and Family Support Center (ACFSC) Entertainment Division would use warehouse space in Facility 4197, new trailer parking space and Facility 2270.

- Use of Facilities 16, 44, 258, and 4168 and temporary locatable facilities adjacent to Facility 16 by the Fifth Army would continue. Facility 258 would be converted to a CO OPS facility.
- If the 470th MI BDE administrative space requirements cannot be accommodated at South Beach, 17 additional portable relocatable facilities would be needed.
- The USARSO would continue to use Facilities 1000 and 4191, and require additional
 administrative space that will be available in the future in Facility 1000. Portable relocatable
 facilities may be used until the additional space is available in Facility 1000.
- The 470th MI BDE, Fifth Army and Sixth Army/USARSO will have separate motor facilities, collocated in the industrial area.
- An information systems facility would be constructed.
- An Army Moral Welfare Recreation (MWR) Academy would be constructed.
- A Battalion (BN) interrogation range would be constructed at Camp Bullis.
- Community Facilities including a Chapel, Youth Center, Shoppette and Main Exchange would be constructed in the HQ and Administration Subarea.

4.1.1 Minor Siting Variations for Preferred Alternative

FSH has limited options in siting new facilities due to the constraints and current intensive use in many areas. Nevertheless, there are a limited number of alternative sites for specific facilities within the preferred alternative subareas. These modifications are listed and described in the following paragraphs.

4.1.1.1 Medical Training Siting Variations

Perimeter Parking and Walking Spaces in the Medical Education Training Center. The Conceptual Land Use Master Plan envisions converting parking space along Hardee and Koehler Roads into the Battalion Headquarters (BN HQ) Building. The parking lot between Facilities 1382 and 1387 will be used as a potential expansion area for three BN HQ facilities, each of which would be 14,560 sf in area.

Additional Dormitory Space for Medical Education Training Center. The Army also will consider the following modification to the medical facilities realignment (preferred) alternative: potential expansion of the dormitory area south of Schofield Road and east of Garden Road.

The 95 percent Area Development Plan for METC concluded that all of the above-described development would not fit within the campus adequately. The "modified" location south of Schofield Road was selected as the most appropriate dormitory site outside the METC.

4.1.1.2 Headquarters and Administrative Siting Variations

Temporary Motor Pool Space

Temporary motor pool space may be provided in the existing Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office (DRMO) storage hardstand area after DRMO releases it to FSH, or they may remain temporarily in the existing warehouse area located off Parker Road or the existing troop motor pool.

Additional Portable Relocatable Temporary Facilities. Although not part of the long-term plan, the use of temporary facilities is probable to support the AMF stationing locations through 2011.

4.2 No Action Alternative

Under the no action alternative, FSH would not implement the proposed action. Organizations currently assigned to FSH would continue to train at and operate from the installation. FSH would use its current inventory of facilities, though routine replacement or renovation actions could occur through normal military maintenance and construction procedures as circumstances independently warrant.

5.0 Environmental Consequences

The EIS evaluated the potential environmental impacts of the preferred alternative on the following resource areas: land use, aesthetics and visual resources, air quality, noise, geology and soils, water resources, biological resources, cultural resources, socioeconomics, transportation, utilities, and hazardous materials and toxic substances. Cumulative impacts were also identified. Implementation of the preferred alternative will result in a range of adverse and beneficial environmental impacts. However, the Army has adopted reasonable and practicable means (Best Management Practices or BMPs) to avoid or minimize potential environmental impacts and harm. Mitigation measures are not necessary if the Army strictly follows all BMPs, which are designed to minimize, avoid, or compensate for such impacts. The following paragraphs summarize the expected effects associated with the Proposed Action for each resource at FSH, as determined by the EIS.

Land Use. No effect on airspace, airspace management or use on FSH or Camp Bullis is expected. Long-term adverse effects the realignment of FSH would have on land use includes the loss and/or alteration of historic facilities currently located on FSH and siting plans for new proposed facilities. Siting of the non-medical research facility is in conflict with the FSH Land Use Plan and may have a potential impact on a nearby RV park. Siting of vehicle maintenance facilities within view of residential neighborhoods outside FSH may be considered an adverse land use. Also, short-term temporary siting of relocatable modular facilities during the renovation and construction period is only compatible with nearby historic properties if they remain in place for less than five years. The proposed build-out schedule may require longer than a five-year use.

Aesthetics and Visual Resources. Long-term beneficial effects on aesthetics and visual resources for the Historic Districts can be expected from construction of facilities in these areas. There should be little to no impact on the views from outside the installation. However, there is a significant impact on historical viewscapes due to the demolition or renovation to historical facilities. Construction of new facilities at the BAMC campus subarea and renovation of existing HQ and other administrative facilities is not expected to significantly impact the aesthetics or visual resources of the installation or outside the boundaries. A long-term adverse effect on the views from outside the installation boundaries from Grayson Street and side roads in housing areas close to the installation is to be expected from construction of vehicle maintenance facilities in the industrial area.

Air Quality. Short-term adverse effects on air quality are expected from an increase in criteria pollutants during construction and deconstruction activities. Long-term effects on air quality are expected from increased mobile and stationary emissions sources, including vehicle traffic, boilers, generators, fuel storage/dispensing, woodworking, and solvent basins. Overall, no significant impact to local or regional air quality is to be expected from BRAC related activities.

Noise. Short- and long-term adverse effects on the noise environment at FSH are expected, primarily due to heavy equipment noise during construction/demolition and the increased vehicle traffic. Medical Evacuation (MEDEVAC) helicopter flights in the BAMC area are forecasted to double, but the effect on environmental noise is negligible due to the limited time these flights are in the area and the choice of

routing over major transportation corridors. No significant increase in noise resulting from an increase in weapons training and use of ground burst simulators during training exercises at Camp Bullis is expected.

Geology & Soils. Short- and long-term adverse effects are expected from increased runoff of impervious surfaces at FSH, which may influence the erosion of remaining soils following construction and paving activities. Erosion of exposed soils during construction will be controlled through engineering measures. No significant effects to geologic resources or karst features would occur.

Water Resources. Short- and long-term adverse effects of increased stormwater runoff due to increased impervious surfaces at FSH are expected. Erosion and sedimentation loads are expected to increase throughout and downstream of FSH. The personnel increase due to the preferred alternative would impact the Edwards Aquifer at FSH and the Trinity Aquifer at Camp Bullis directly due to increased water demands and pumping. The current water allocation cap is protective of the Edwards Aquifer and increased water use at FSH is not expected to exceed this cap. No significant impact to surface water quality or wetlands is expected by implementing the proposed action.

Biological Resources. Implementing the preferred alternative would have no significant effects on biological resources at FSH or Camp Bullis. Endangered species at Camp Bullis are not expected to be impacted from noise during construction and training exercises and those non-endangered species that would be disturbed during construction are anticipated to relocate to adjacent areas within the installation. One karst feature is located near a proposed construction site at Camp Bullis, however, karst protected species are not found in the proposed construction area. Karst geology refers to areas of irregular limestone in which erosion has produced fissures, sinkholes, underground streams, and caverns.

Cultural Resources. Long-term adverse effects on cultural resources are expected from deconstruction and/or alteration of several facilities on FSH which are potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NHRP). No impact to identified archaeological resources is expected, however, when conducting ground-disturbing activities, there is always the possibility that buried archaeological resources will be discovered or unanticipated adverse effects will occur on historic properties. Long-term beneficial effects to cultural resources from the preferred alternative would stem from the enhancement and protection of historic qualities, provision of necessary modern conveniences as unobtrusively as possible, and landscaping around parking areas and modern mechanical equipment so as to screen them from view and minimize the impact on viewscapes of historic districts.

Socioeconomics. Implementing the preferred alternative would create substantial economic benefits within the San Antonio Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) by relocating 5,179 jobs to the area and creating 12,915 additional indirect positions. Income in the socioeconomic region of interest could increase by as much as \$415.5 million as a result of direct jobs generated by realignment activities. A substantial increase in construction-related spending would also contribute to the beneficial economic effects of the proposed action. No significant effects on demographics or income potential are anticipated. The preferred alternative would, however, create the need for additional personnel and facilities for police, fire and emergency medical services on FSH and Camp Bullis due to the installations' population increase of greater than 35 percent. Environmental justice effects would not be anticipated for the minority or low-income populations within the San Antonio MSA because implementing the preferred alternative would create only beneficial economic effects.

Transportation. Short- and long-term adverse effects on vehicle-based transportation resources are expected from having additional personnel at the post. Short-term adverse effects are expected due to the use of on-road construction vehicles during the periods of construction. Increases in vehicular traffic is expected to be the greatest in the southwestern and eastern areas of FSH, thus, increasing the waiting time at Access Control Points (ACP's) in this area and lowering the level of service (LOS) for intersections and roadway segments throughout the installation. In general, the traffic implications are expected to remain in conventionally accepted ranges.

Utilities. No effect is expected on the utility infrastructures of FSH and Camp Bullis. An increase in water and energy consumption is an expected effect of the preferred alternative. Impact on the existing water, electrical, and gas systems of FSH and Camp Bullis is considered to be negligible because the current infrastructure is adequate to support increased growth and utility usage. Wastewater and solid waste generation would increase with the increased personnel at both FSH and Camp Bullis. Impacts to the existing wastewater facilities at FSH are considered negligible. At Camp Bullis, the on-site wastewater facility has sufficient capacity, but upgrades to the lift stations would have to be made. Solid waste infrastructure at both installations is adequate for the increased population.

Hazardous Materials and Waste Management. Long-term beneficial effects are expected from the removal of asbestos-containing materials (ACM), lead based paint (LBP), and PCB-containing ballasts in existing buildings that would be demolished or renovated. Medical and bio-hazardous waste generation is expected to increase, but would not exceed the capabilities of storage facilities or disposal contractors. Special wastes generated from vehicle and facility maintenance is expected to increase, but quantities are not expected to exceed the capacities of disposal facilities. Radioactive wastes are expected to increase slightly as the FSH medical facilities are constructed, but no environmental impact is expected. No long-term adverse environmental impacts are anticipated from the presence of unexploded ordnances (UXO) or from the use of pesticides. Overall, increased quantities of hazardous wastes would be generated, primarily petroleum products, construction debris, and medical wastes, but none are expected to exceed storage or disposal capacities.

Cumulative Impacts. Implementation of the preferred alternative will produce a mixture of beneficial and adverse cumulative impacts with respect to land use, aesthetics and visual resources, water resources, biological resources, cultural resources, socioeconomics, and utilities. None of the cumulative impacts will be significantly adverse.

No Action Alternative. No impacts on any of the resource areas would be expected from implementation of the No Action Alternative at FSH or Camp Bullis.

6.0 Best Management Practices/Mitigation

The EIS predicts that implementing the Proposed Action will result in effects on several environmental resources. The EIS identifies best management practices to minimize, avoid, or compensate for such effects. The Army has adopted reasonable and practicable means to avoid or minimize potential environmental impacts and harm. The following best management practices are deemed appropriate.

6.1 Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Land Use. No land use measures would be needed at Camp Bullis as a result of implementing the preferred alternative. At FSH, the Army would consider incompatible neighboring uses when designing the non-medical research facility and vehicle maintenance facilities with the potential addition of screening with berms, landscaping or other means. The Army will also provide screening for relocatable modular facilities where sited near the Quadrangle and historical districts for more than five years as well as provide a berm to screen the laser from portions of the golf course east of Salado Creek.

Aesthetics and Visual Resources. No measures are needed at Camp Bullis because there would be no significant impacts to aesthetic and visual resources. At FSH, the Army would to the maximum extent practicable, follow procedures in the Installation Design Guide (IDG); historic review requirements; and the Historic Properties Component (HPC) of the FSH Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) for alterations and replacement of historic facilities.

Air Quality. The Army will update air quality permits at both FSH and Camp Bullis. Dust suppression BMPs during construction and demolition/deconstruction will be implemented at both installations.

Design for new construction will involve selection of energy-efficient systems. Equipment will be selected and used per Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) air quality measures.

Noise. No noise reduction measures would be required at FSH or Camp Bullis.

Geology & Soils. Erosion and sediment control, grading and reseeding would be required during construction at FSH and Camp Bullis.

Water Resources. At FSH and Camp Bullis, the existing SWPPP, SPCC Plan and the Pollution Prevention (P2) Plan would be updated to include new construction but at Camp Bullis no other measures are recommended. At FSH, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits would be updated. Stormwater management structures would be engineered to include retention ponds if needed, which is required to prevent flooding on portions of FSH and to prevent significant impacts on downstream off-installation properties. Increased potable water pumping at FSH would be offset partially by decreased pumping at Lackland AFB due to the transfer of medical activities from Wilford Hall Medical Center (WHMC) to BAMC. Increased pumping will be within the pumping limits set in the 1999 USFWS BO. Water conservation measures would continue to be implemented during the design of facilities and continued utilization of reuse water for landscaping and other approved uses will be considered. For construction sites greater than 1 acre, a site TCEQ Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) would be required.

Biological Resources. No measures would be required at FSH. At Camp Bullis, the Army would follow procedures of existing karst management activities outlined in the KMP and ESMP, which are included in the INRMP. Karst geology refers to areas of irregular limestone in which erosion has produced fissures, sinkholes, underground streams, and caverns.

Cultural Resources. At FSH, the Army would follow procedures in the IDG and the SOPs in the HPC of the FSH ICRMP to the maximum extent practicable for alterations and replacement of historic facilities. One comment was received on the cultural resources at Camp Bullis. However, no significant impacts are anticipated and the comment presented no new issues that may require measures for cultural resources at Camp Bullis. Inadvertent discoveries of archaeological material would be mitigated in accordance with the HPC.

Socioeconomics. Expansion of law enforcement, fire and emergency personnel at FSH would be needed to avoid potential significant impacts on the quality of life. At Camp Bullis, no measures are needed due to the absence of anticipated significant impacts.

Transportation. The Army will continue to make permanent improvements inside and outside FSH ACPs. Selected roadway widening and intersection traffic controls would be considered to reduce congestion at FSH.

Utilities. The Army will integrate water and energy conservation into the design of new facilities as well as use reuse water for irrigation requirements at new facilities or xeriscapes at FSH. At Camp Bullis, the Army will increase the capacity of the wastewater lift stations.

Hazardous Materials and Waste Management. At FSH, the Army will include recycling incentives in demolition/deconstruction contracts as well as implement P2 product substitutions and waste reduction. The Army will comply with existing procedures for tracking, handling, storage and use of hazardous and toxic materials as well as procedures for contract disposal of hazardous and biomedical wastes. Surveys for LBP and ACM will be conducted before demolition/deconstruction activities begin. Surveys for UXOs will also be conducted. Updates to Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) permits will be filed as well as updates to Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA) reporting. At Camp Bullis, the Army will perform UXO clearance prior to construction activities.

6.2 Mitigation

The EIS predicts that implementation of the proposed action will result in some adverse effects on select environmental resources. Mitigation measures are not necessary if the Army strictly follows all BMPs, which are designed to minimize, avoid, or compensate for such impacts.

7.0 Decision

In my capacity as the Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management, I have decided to proceed with the Proposed Action with all, or any of its assessed siting variations, if required to implement the BRAC Commission's recommendations at FSH, Texas. I have considered the results of the analysis presented in the final EIS and have determined that the EIS adequately addressed the impacts that implementation of the Army's Proposed Action, with or without the siting variations, would have on the biological, physical and cultural environment of FSH and the surrounding areas. As a result of this Record of Decision, the Army will proceed with implementation of the Proposed Action with all, or any of its assessed siting variations, if required.

In making this decision, I have observed a 30-day waiting period for comments on the final EIS. Comments associated with the final EIS present no new issues that may require modifying or supplementing the EIS. Also I have considered the following:

- Transcripts of scoping and the Draft EIS public meetings
- Oral and written comments received during the public comment periods associated with the preparation of the EIS
- · Provisions of relevant statutes, regulations, and Executive Orders that bear on the installation disposal process and environmental stewardship responsibilities of the Army.

In addition, I have considered the results of on going coordination with Federal, state and local regulatory agencies and public groups. I have adopted the realignment alternative as the preferred alternative. The no action alternative is the environmentally preferred alternative; however, the BRAC legislation precludes the decision maker from actually selecting this alternative. The no action alternative was carried forward for analysis because the Council on Environmental Quality regulations requires its inclusion to serve as a baseline against which the impacts of the proposed action can be evaluated.

CRAIG E. COLLEGE

Deputy Assistant-Chief of Staff

for Installation Management